

Coal Utilization for Power and Chemicals in a Carbon-Constrained World

Pittsburgh Coal Conference

Dr. Raghubir Gupta, Senior Vice President – Energy Technology Division September 8th, 2017



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RTI is an independent, nonprofit institute that provides research, development, and technical services to government and commercial clients worldwide.

Our mission is to improve the human condition by turning knowledge into practice.



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105

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90

3

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF

NERGY

250 5

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NATIONAL

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Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy Annual Control of					

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US Coal Landscape – Short-Term Energy Outlook – Slight Uptick for Coal

Coal Production and Exports

- 37 million short tons (MMst) of coal were exported in the first five months of 2017
 - 60% higher than coal exports over the same period last year
- The increase in coal exports contributes to an expected increase in coal production

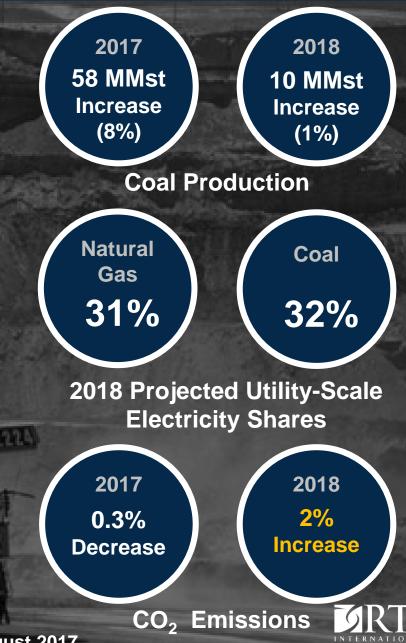
Electric Power Sector

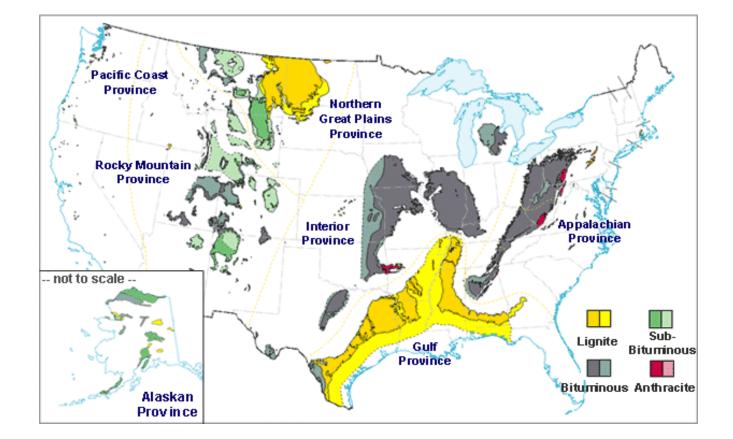
- U.S. total utility-scale electricity generation from natural gas will drop in 2017 (34% to 31%), while coal will increase from 30% to 32%
 - Result of higher natural gas prices, increased generation from renewables and coal, and lower electricity demand

Emissions

 After declining 1.7% in 2016, energy-related carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions are projected to decrease 0.3% in 2017 and then to increase 2.0% in 2018

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), Short-Term Energy Outlook August 2017



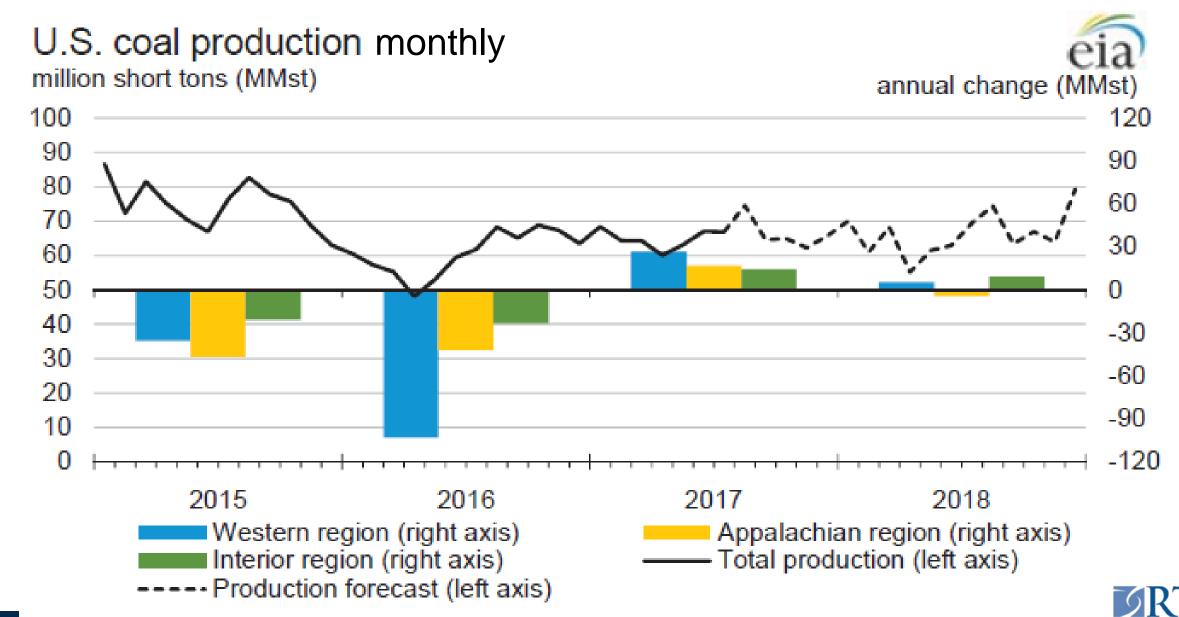


U.S. Coal Reserves by State and Type - 2014 (Billion Short Tons)				
	U.S.	% of		
	Demonstrated	Total		
<u>State</u>	Reserve Base (DRB)	<u>DRB</u>		
Montana	118.73	24.82%		
Illinois	103.78	21.69%		
Wyoming	58.97	12.33%		
West Virginia	30.88	6.45%		
Kentucky	28.44	5.94%		
Pennsylvania	26.46	5.53%		
Ohio	22.90	4.79%		
Colorado	15.74	3.29%		
Texas	11.91	2.49%		
New Mexico	11.83	2.47%		
Indiana	8.98	1.88%		
North Dakota	8.73	1.82%		
Alaska	6.09	1.27%		
Missouri	5.99	1.25%		
Utah	5.02	1.05%		

- These 15 states contain > 97% of total U.S. demonstrated coal reserves.
- Currently, ~40% of U.S. active/mined coal production reserves are PRB (sub-bit.) and ~10% are lignite.

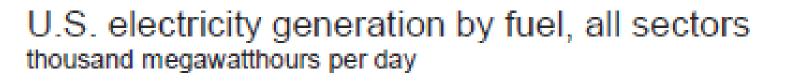


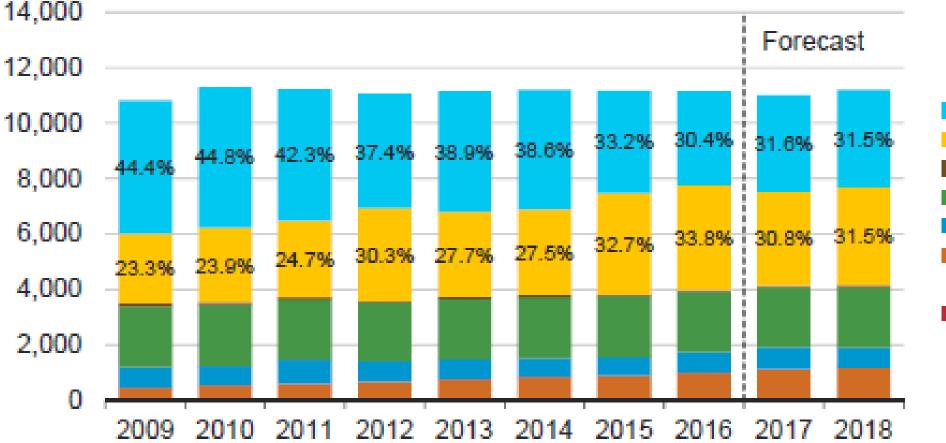
Some Short-Term Improvement in Coal Production for All U.S. Regions



Source: Short-Term Energy Outlook, August 2017.

But the Trend has been for Decreasing Use of Coal for U.S. Power Generation



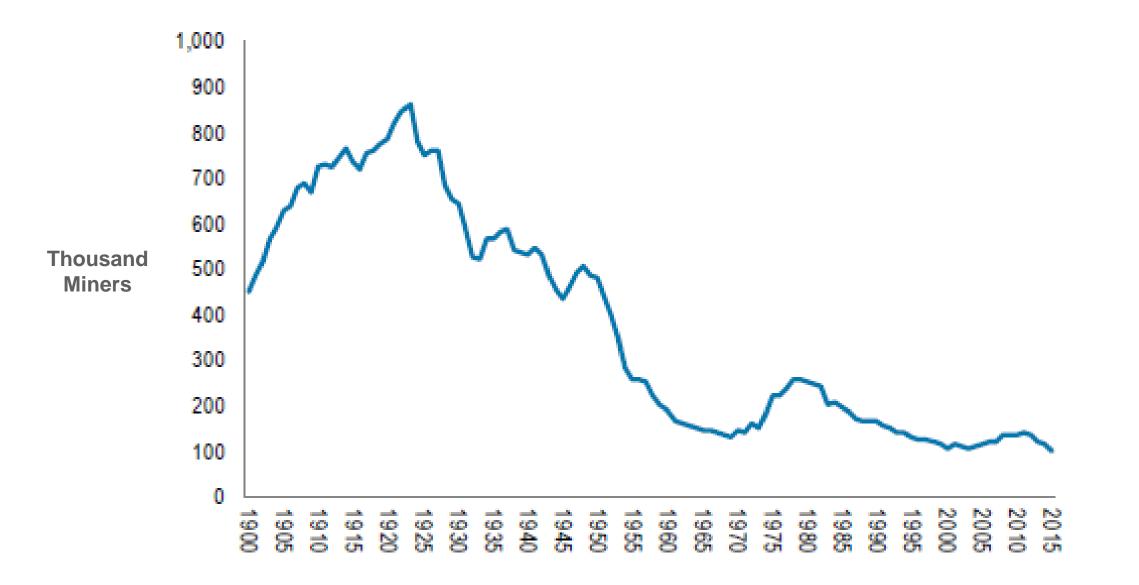


 Coal
Natural gas
Petroleum
Nuclear
Hydropower
Non-hydro renewables
Other sources

Note: Labels show percentage share of total generation provided by coal and natural gas.

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And U.S. Coal Mining Employment has been in General Decline Since 1980

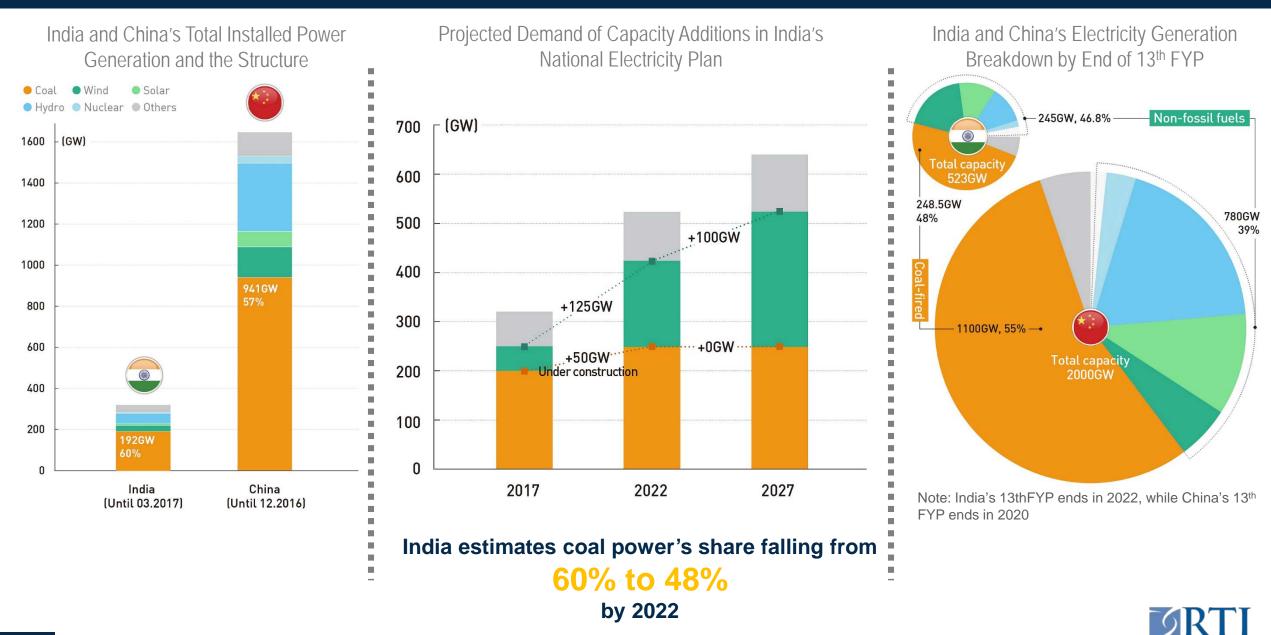




Source: Mine Safety and Health Administration, includes office workers starting in 1973.

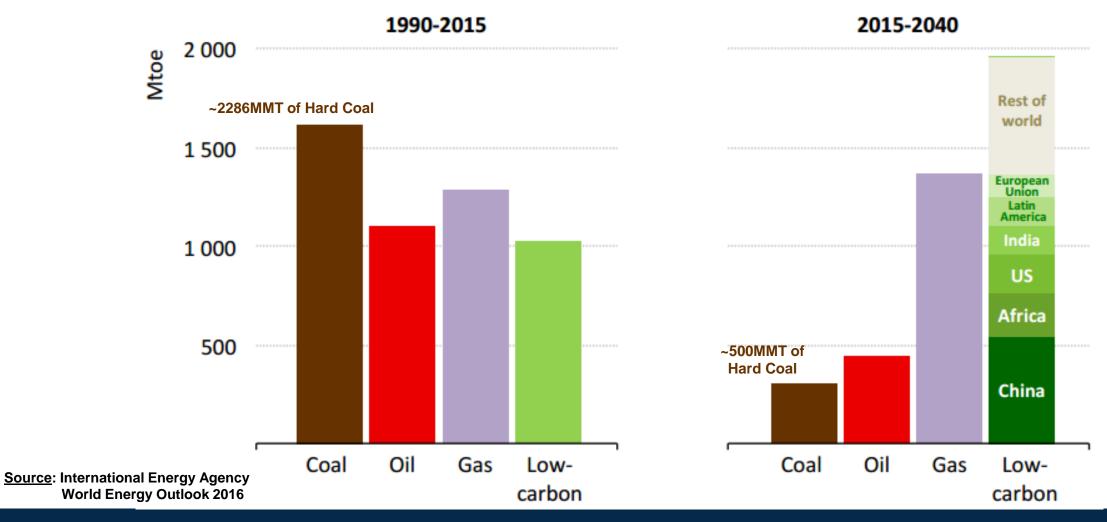
Coal Still Dominates in India and China...For Now

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Long-Term Global Energy Demand Growth is Shifting to Low-Carbon Sources

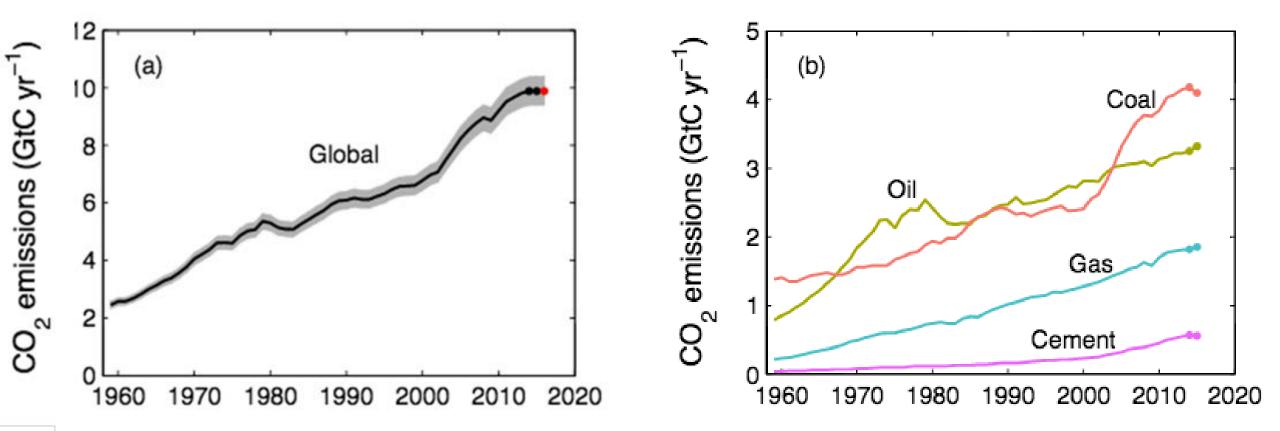
Change in primary global incremental energy demand growth



"Low-carbon fuels & technologies, mostly renewables, supply nearly half of the increase in energy demand to 2040"

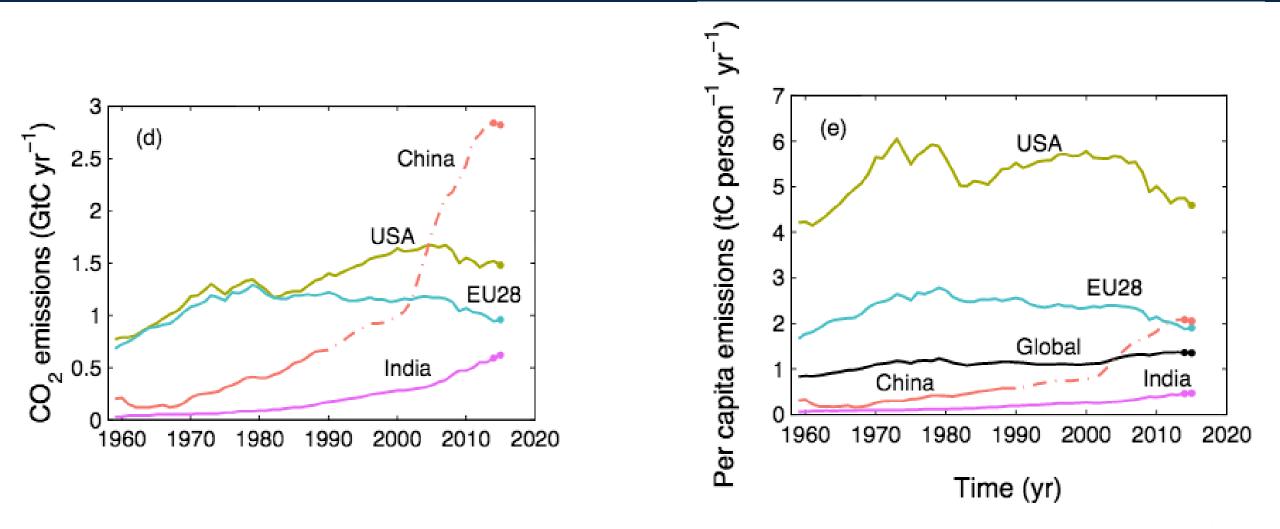


Global CO₂ Emissions from Fossil Fuel and Industry are Starting to Plateau





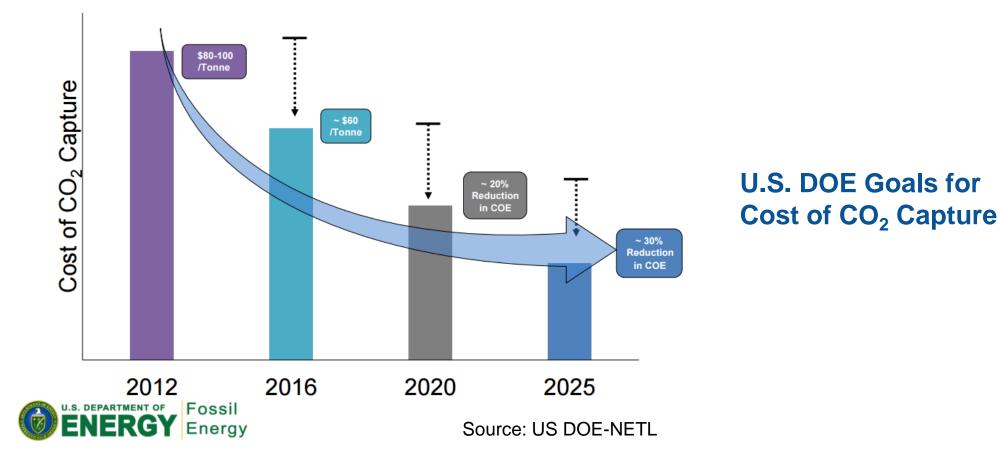
China and India CO₂ Emissions are Growing, While U.S. & Europe Decline – But Net Impact has Kept Global Per Capita Emissions Relatively Flat





How Does Coal Survive in a Carbon-Constrained World?

- Long-term global concerns are expected to continue driving reduction of carbon emissions from use of coal
- To ensure coal remains competitive, coal-based process efficiencies must be increased and current carbon capture costs must be reduced

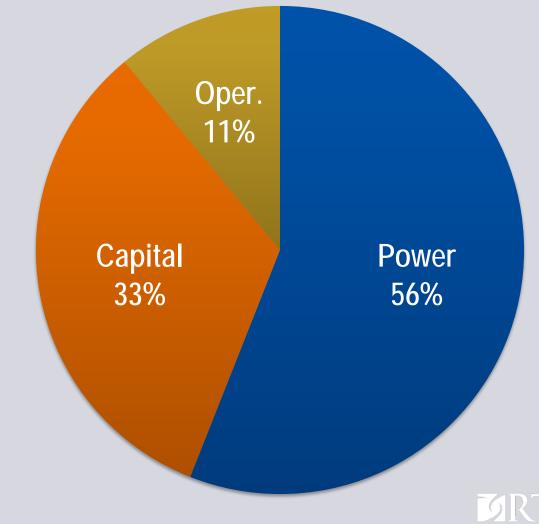


Pathway to Reducing the Cost of CO₂ Capture

Pathway to Reducing LCOE and Cost of CO₂ Avoided

- Primarily focus on reducing energy consumption – reboiler duty
- Reduce capital expenditures:
 - Simplify process arrangements
 - Cheaper materials of construction
- Limit operating cost increases

CO₂ Capture Cost Elements for Current Solvent Systems



Examples of Current Large-Scale Carbon Capture and Storage Projects



SaskPower – Saskatchewan Canada

- Company/Alliance: SaskPower
- Location: Boundary Dam Power Plant, Saskatchewan, Canada
- Source: 115 MW coal-fired Unit #3 (retrofit)
- Start Date: October 2014 [world's 1st large-scale coal boiler carbon capture project]
- Capture: up to 1.3 Mt of CO₂/yr (up to 5,000 tpd @ 90% capture) for EOR with backup underground storage site [~1.5 Mt captured to date]
- Capture Technology: Post-combustion: Shell Cansolv amine process

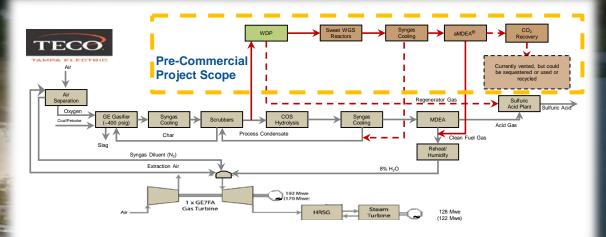


Petra Nova Carbon Capture Project - Richmond, TX

- **Company/Alliance:** Petra Nova Holdings: a 50/50 partnership between NRG Energy and JX Nippon Oil & Gas Exploration Corp.
- Location: Unit 8, W.A. Parish plant, Thompsons, 60Km from Houston, Texas, USA
- Source: 240 MW slip stream from 610 MW coal-fired unit
- Start Date: January 2017 (ribbon-cutting April 13, 2017)
- **Capture:** 1.4 Mt of CO₂/yr (5,000 tpd at 90% capture) for EOR
- Capture Technology: Post-combustion: KM-CDR (KS-1 amine) absorption process developed by MHI and KEPCO



RTI - CO₂ Removal at Demonstration Scale at Tampa Electric Company



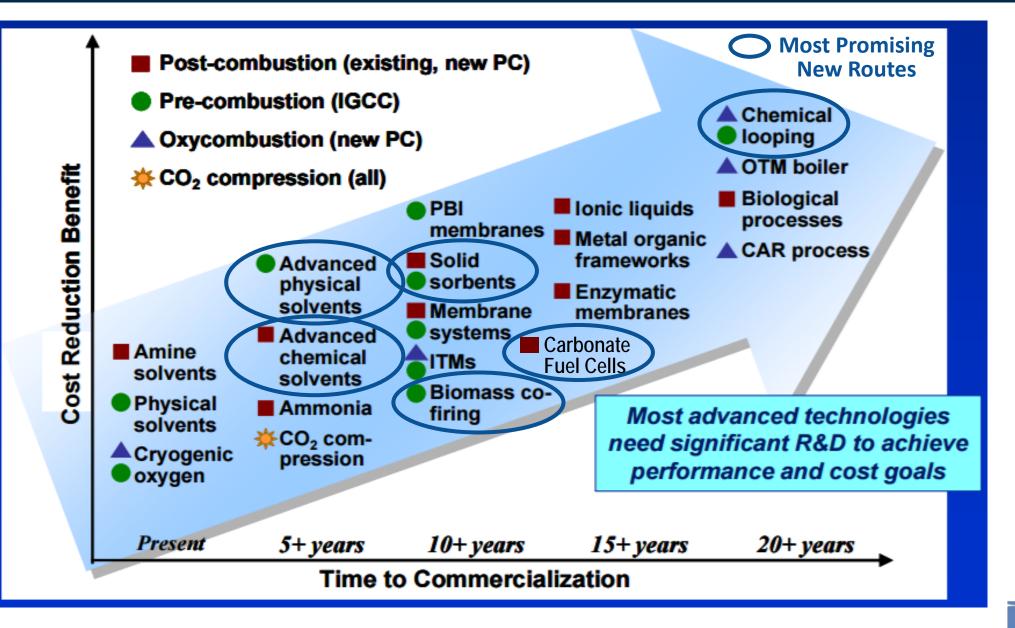
 Demonstrated as one element of a 50-MW_e demonstration of RTI's warm syngas desulfurization process (WDP)

Designed, built, and operated an activated amine based CO₂ capture system
Processed over 50,000 Nm³/hr of syngas and produced about 1,000 ton/day of CO₂ which was captured at >99% efficiency

Original plans were to sequester CO_2 in a saline aquifer, but permit issues drove the project to simply catch and release the CO_2



Numerous Advanced CO₂ Capture Technologies are Under Development





Innovative CO₂ Capture Technologies Being Developed at RTI

RTI is developing innovative solutions for capturing CO₂ from large industrial sources, such as fossil-fuel power, chemical and cement plants, at lower costs and energy penalties.

Technologies (pre- and post-combustion):

- Non-Aqueous Solvents
- Solid Sorbents
- Chemical Looping Systems
- Membranes
- Hybrid Systems

Benefits: Substantial improvements to the cost and energy demands of CO_2 capture and utilization compared to conventional technologies

- Regeneration energy reduced by as much as 40-50% (compared to MEA)
- Overall cost of electricity reduced ~10-12% for powergen (compared to a DOE baseline study)
- Capex of carbon capture block reduced by up to 50%



RTI's Partnerships in CO₂ Capture & Utilization









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Solid Sorbent for CO₂ Capture



Technology Status

- Cumulative Bench-scale Prototype testing: 1,000+ circulation hours; 420+ CO₂ capture hours
- The sorbent is capable of rapid removal of CO₂ from the simulated flue gas
- Sustained 90% capture of the CO₂ in simulated flue gas stream is easily achieved
- Collected a wealth of performance data, identified how system performance varies due to process variables, and proved the reliable nature of bench-scale testing
- Additional tests conducted in U.S. and on-site at a Norcem cement plant in Norway

Solid sorbent-based CO₂ capture process that uses a supported, polymeric sorbent and a fluid-bed process arrangement for postcombustion applications

Impact

- Substantial reduction in cost of CO₂ capture
- ~ 40% energy reduction
- Reduction in CAPEX
- High CO₂ loading capacity
- Relatively low heat of absorption; no heat of vaporization penalty
- No evaporative emissions



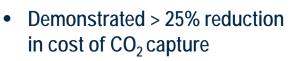
RTI Solid Sorbent Based CO₂ Capture Technology Development

1st and 2nd Generation Sorbents

Initial Sorbent Discovery 2011 – 2015



PENNSTAT



- ~10 wt% CO₂ loading capacity
- Sorbent production scaled up to 1,000 kg

NORCEM Cement Plant Pilot Testing 2013 – 2016

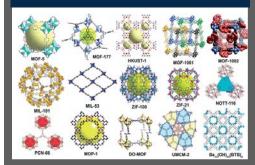


HEIDELBERGCEMENTGroup GASSNOVA

- Demonstrated the technical and economic feasibility of RTI's solid sorbent CO₂ capture process in an operating cement plant
- Pilot unit captured >100 kg/day CO₂

3rd Generation Sorbents

3rd Generation Sorbent Development 2015 – 2017



• Metal organic framework and dendrimer based, fluidizable sorbents

NORCEIT

- Higher CO₂ capacity and sorbent stability and attrition resistance
- Tunable pore sizes
- Exceptionally high surface areas
- Scalable manufacturing process



Masdar

Novel, Non-Aqueous Solvents for CO₂



Technology Status

- Cumulative DOE funding > \$9 MM
- Successful cooperation between RTI, Linde, and SINTEF (Scandinavia's leading research organization)
 - Ongoing pilot testing in Norway at SINTEF
 - MEA baseline testing completed
 - Confirmed reported reboiler heat duty of 3.5-3.6 GJ/T-CO₂ for amine (MEA)
 - NAS drop-in (no modification) testing with coal-based flue gas reduced reboiler heat duty to 2.7 GJ/T-CO2, validating projections
 - Modifying unit now for NAS-optimized design
 - Expecting modifications to enable ~2.0 GJ/T-CO₂
- Pre-commercial demonstration (10 MW) planned at Technology Center Mongstad, Norway for FY18

CO₂ Capture Technology with substantially reduced energy consumption

Additional potential in other gas separation applications

Impact

- Doesn't absorb water like conventional amine systems
- Reduces regeneration energy penalty ~40-50% lower than MEA solvents (and better than state-of-the-art systems)
- Reduces the increase in cost of electricity associated with CO2 capture
- Substantially reduces capital costs for carbon capture



Technology Roadmap: RTI Novel Non-Aqueous CO₂ Solvents (NAS)



Lab-Scale Development & Evaluation (2010-2013)

Solvent screening

BAS

Lab-scale evaluation of process

Large Bench-Scale System (RTI facility, 2014-2016)

Demonstration of key process features ($\leq 2,000$ kJ/kg CO₂)



Pilot Testing at Tiller Plant (Norway, 2016-2018)

Demonstration of all process components at pilot scale (~60 kWe)



Future Demonstration (2018+)

Pre-commercial Demonstration at Technology Centre Mongstad, Norway (~1-10 MWe)

Planning and pre-qualification ongoing (will test range of flue gases – coal, NG, etc.)













Applicability of RTI NAS for Gasification Syngas Carbon Capture

Since syngas is at pressure, we expect the NAS to work even better for syngas-based carbon dioxide capture than in the flue gas case, but they need to be coupled with upstream sulfur removal (such as RTI's warm gas desulfurization process).

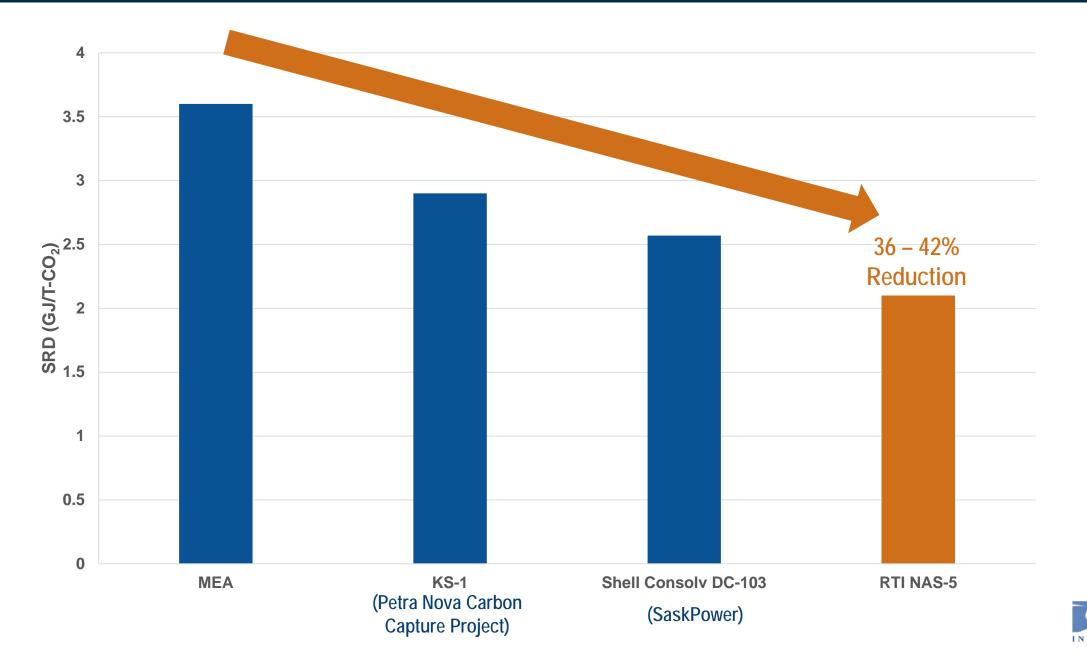
- NAS is both a chemical solvent and a physical solvent.
- Therefore, it will behave as a chemical solvent and a physical solvent.
- At higher pressures, the overall absorption of CO₂ should be enhanced.



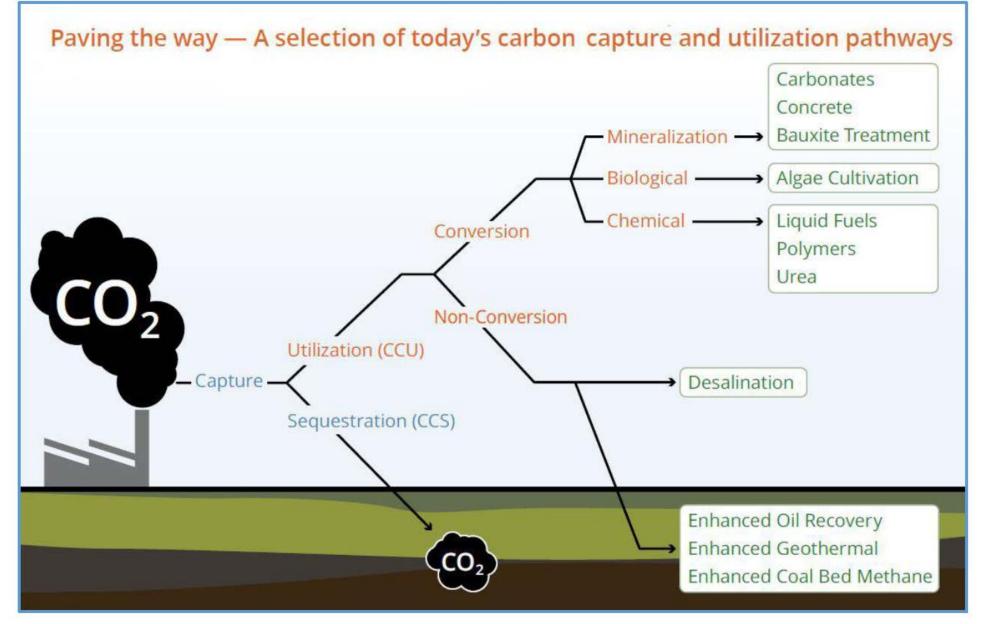




Advanced Technologies are Driving Down the Reboiler Duty Energy Penalty



Carbon Capture and Utilization Pathways





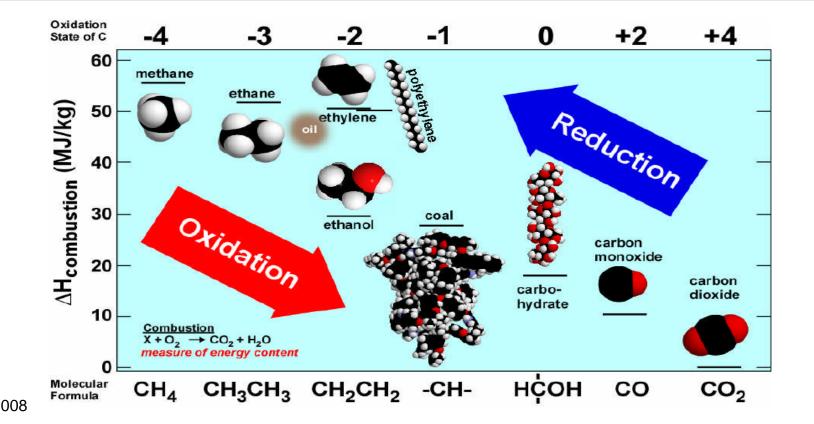
Challenges of CO₂ Reuse

Challenge

Identify low cost reducing agents that have a small CO_2 footprint

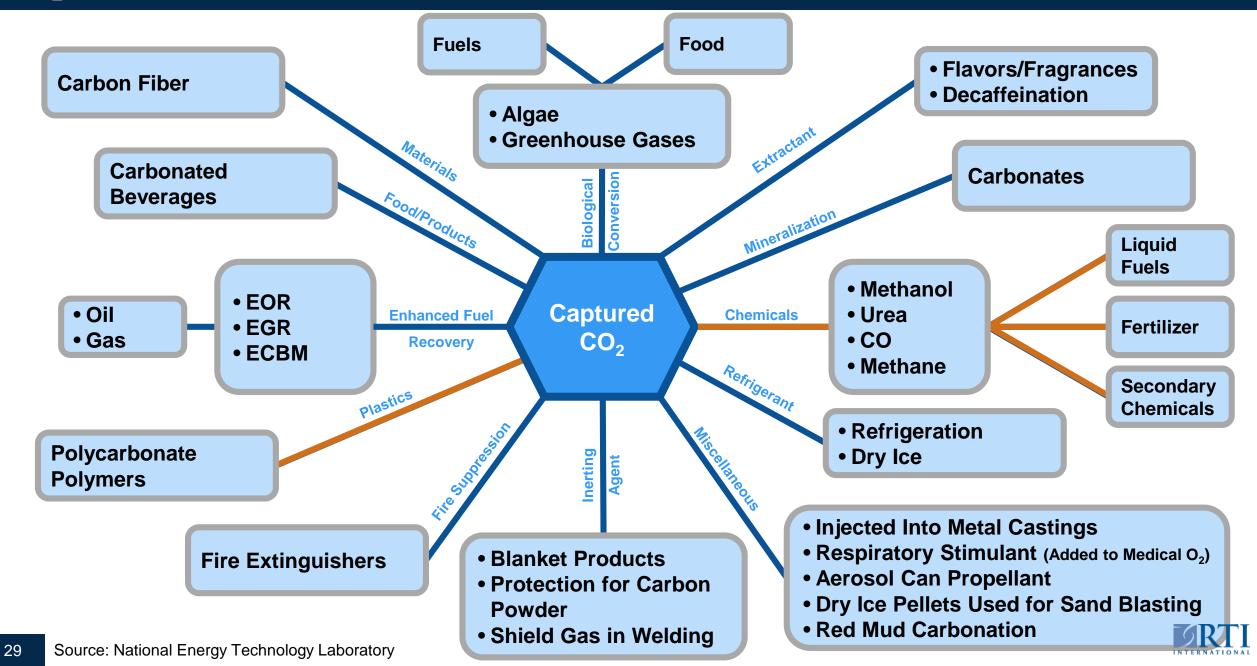
CO₂ Properties

- Most fully oxidized form of carbon
- Extremely chemically stable
- Conversion to useful products requires abundant reducing agents and energy

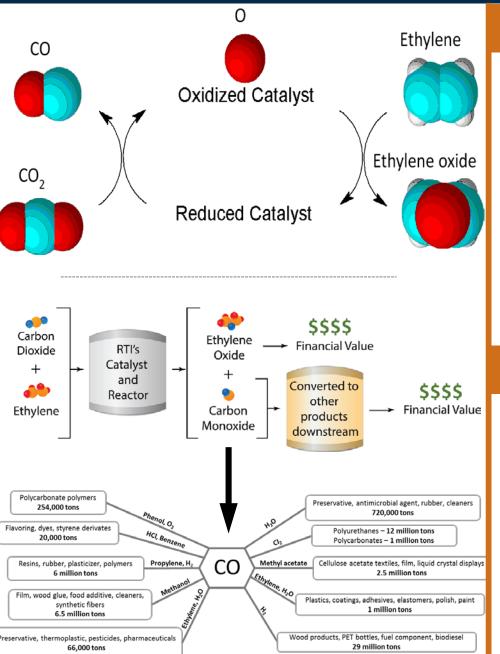




CO₂ Utilization – Broad Market Potential but Must be Economically Competitive



RTI CO₂ Utilization Technology Platform



Technology and Status

- Based on novel catalysts that can extract oxygen from CO₂, co-producing CO, while driving reactions such as dry methane reforming or oxidations.
- Utilizes CO₂ as a feedstock for large volume chemicals, e.g. ethylene oxide
- Initial catalyst formulations developed for Ethylene Oxide production
- Initial process design developed
- Techno-Economic potential confirmed
- Next steps:
 - Broaden to general targeted oxidation platform

Impact

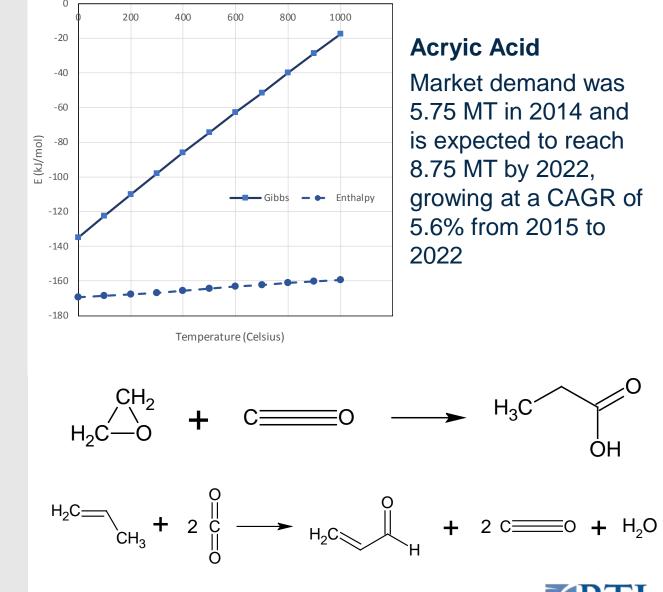
- Technology platform, expandable for variety of oxidative processes for large value applications
- Utilizing CO₂ as a feedstock for large volume chemicals with broad industrial interest
- Based on novel catalysts that can extract an oxygen (O) atom from CO_2 , co-producing carbon monoxide (CO), while driving reactions such as dry methane reforming or oxidations such as ethylene to ethylene oxide (EtO)



CO₂ Utilization Technology Platforms

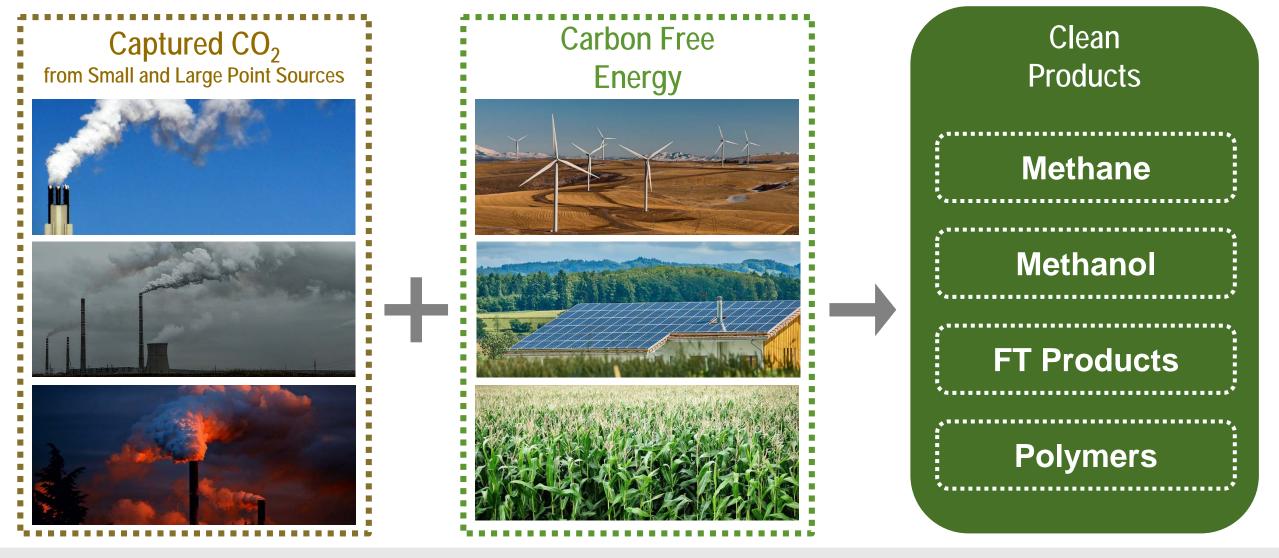
RTI has identified several potential CO₂ Utilization pathways that improve upon conventional routes with promising thermodynamics and supportive global markets.

- Ethylene oxide
- Acrylic Acid
- Acrolein
- Acrylonitrile





Grand Challenge

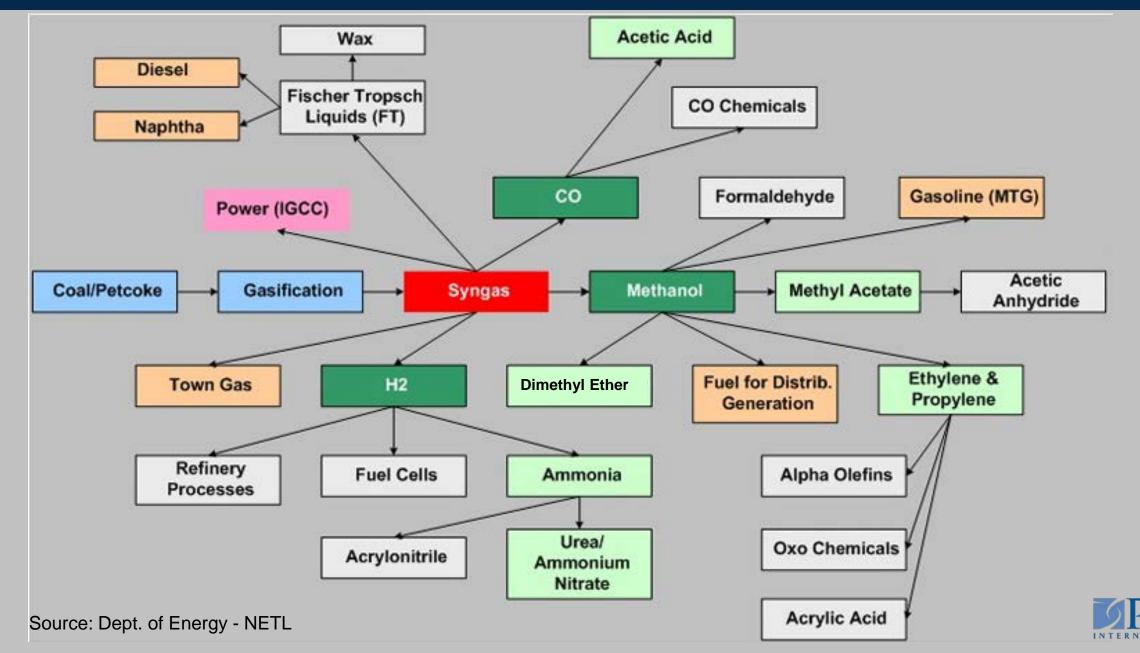


 $H_2O \rightarrow H_2 + \frac{1}{2}O_2$ $H_2@ < $2/kg$ ΔH_2 If electricity is < 2¢/kWh, we can make something happen with CO₂



 $\Delta H = +50 \text{ kWh/kg}$

Coal to Chemicals: Low-Hanging Fruit for CO₂ Utilization



Closing Thoughts

- Coal will continue as a key feedstock for world-wide energy, but long-term global concerns are still expected to drive the need to reduce carbon emissions from use of coal.
- Several large-scale carbon capture projects are now being demonstrated, but to keep coal use competitive, current carbon capture costs must be substantially reduced.
- Advanced technologies are being developed and demonstrated by RTI and others that offer hope for substantial cost reductions for low-carbon utilization of coal.
- Safe storage of CO₂ is being proven, but still faces legal and regulatory risks that need to be addressed through policy.
- Innovations in CO₂ utilization offer interesting technology and business options beyond CO₂ storage.
- Coal-to-chemicals offers low-hanging fruit for CO₂ utilization.



34 Source: Robert Nickelsberg/Getty Images

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